



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

*Kenny C. Guinn, Governor*

*Allen Biaggi, Director*

*Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator*

## Notice of Proposed Action

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the Placer Turquoise Ridge, Inc. (Getchell Gold) Mining Project, a mining facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0086014 is:

Placer Turquoise Ridge, Inc.  
HC66 Box 220  
Golconda, Nevada 89414

The facility is located on both private and public land in Humboldt County, within Sections 1-5, 7-23, 25-29, and 32-36, Township 39 North, Range 42 East, Sections 1-6, 9-15, and 17, Township 38 North, Range 42 East, and Sections 5, 6, 8, and 15, Township 38 North, Range 43 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 40 miles northeast of the town of Winnemucca.

The project consists of mining with a maximum permitted production rate of up to 2,000,000 tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of several open pit mines, the Turquoise Ridge Underground (TRU) and Getchell Main Underground (GMU) mines, headframes, limestone and basalt quarries, waste rock dumps, ore stockpiles, offices, shops and ancillary support facilities. Processing and support service facilities include administrative offices, mill (inactive), tailings impoundment, heap leach facility (in closure), maintenance shops, fuel depots, storage areas, and a security/warehouse complex. Ancillary facilities include batch plants for underground backfill, water supply and dewatering wells, service water system, truck wash, pipelines, powerlines, topsoil stockpiles, Class III landfill, and reclamation test plots. The facility is required to be designed, constructed, operated and closed without any discharge or release in excess of those standards established in regulation except for meteorological events which exceed the design storm event.

The Administrator is constrained to either issue the renewed Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the renewed permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed Water Pollution Control Permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code, NAC Chapter 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice to:

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Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation  
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this Water Pollution Control Permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The draft Water Pollution Control Permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Bob Carlson at (775) 687-9401 or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.html>

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